

Daddy CEO 49

Chapter 49 Bantering

"Nice to meet you too." Celeste looked at the woman in front of her. It was just as Liu Ran had told her. Ran Xueyi looked very beautiful and bright. But more than that, Celeste could already sense that the other was a capable and ambitious woman.

The smile on her face deepened as she moved closer to Ran Xueyi.

Previously, when Celeste received a call from Liu Ran about Ran Xueyi, she was slightly uncertain. Though she trusted Liu Ran's judgement in the people he thought was good, she was afraid that someone would be too fake and pull a false upfront on Liu Ran and trick him.

Celeste took Ran Xueyi to a cafe. She said to the waiter, "I'd like to order a cup of Cappuccino." She turned to Ran Xueyi and asked her what she wanted.

Ran Xueyi didn't hurry and skimmed over the menu, she finally said, "Hot dark chocolate."

After ordering and after the waiter left, Ran Xueyi faced the other and saw that Celeste was looking at her with a weird gaze on her eyes.

"Is something wrong?" asked Ran Xueyi.

Celeste shook her head, "Nothing... it's just I didn't think you'd like hot dark chocolate."

Ran Xueyi's smile deepened and she replied, "I don't. I usually go for a mocha latte. But my taste changed. I like bittersweet things now."

She liked sweet things in the past. However, to suit her taste with Yang Baihua's, she forced herself to drink and eat whatever he liked.

But now, she could finally set herself free and eat and drink what she liked.

Celeste nodded her head. She pulled her briefcase and took out the business registration papers before handing it over to Ran Xueyi.

Ran Xueyi looked down at it and was very satisfied. Everything was done meticulously.

"Thank you."

"I heard from Liu Ran you're starting an entertainment company. Have you started looking for artists and talent who would sign under your company? What about the employees and shareholders?" Celeste asked quickly, worried that Ran Xueyi was new and had no knowledge on starting her own company.

She's known several heirs and heiresses who wasted their parents' money to create their own company and businesses. However, they do not know how to manage their companies and ended up bankrupting a few weeks or months after.

That was why Celeste was worried. Probably because she didn't know what Ran Xueyi's reason to start her own company was, she was a bit nervous.

"You do not have to worry, Sister Celeste. I have experience in handling a company in the past. As for employees, I think there are a lot of opportunity seekers in the imperial capital." Ran Xueyi calmly said, chuckling to herself at the good memories she spent helping her grandfather manage the family's company.

At that time, Ran Xueyi was only 16 years old when her grandfather took her to the Ran family's company. She was tossed around in the office and had to be trained by the veterans on how to get better at managing the company. Besides that, she was also taken by her grandfather to different meetings with other company presidents. Even though she stayed on the side and didn't speak, Ran Xueyi learned a lot during that time.

Seeing how confident she looked, Celeste pressed down her worry.

The waiter came back with their drinks. The two of them thanked the waiter before grabbing their drinks and sipped from it.

After a while, the two of them finally finished their drinks in silence. Ran Xueyi paid for their drinks. And after bidding farewell to each other, they separated on a good note, planning to meet each other once again when they have time.

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Ran Xueyi walked to her car and was just about to start it when her phone rang.

She looked down at it and saw that the caller ID was registered 'Grandpa'.

Upon seeing that her grandfather was calling, Ran Xueyi had a bright smile on her face.

"Grandfather, why did you call?" Ran Xueyi leaned her back and looked outside the window.

"If I didn't call you today, you wouldn't even call and tell me what they did to you... How irresponsible of you, Xueyi." Ran Zhu said from the other end of the phone. His voice was cold and firm.

Ran Xueyi flinched and sat straighter. It was a reflex. Whenever she heard her grandpa's cold voice, she knew that something bad must have happened.

"Why didn't you tell me?" Her grandfather asked again. "Do you even know what I'm feeling right now?"

His beloved granddaughter was bullied upon returning home and these people were not even half guilty of their actions. How could he not worry?

"Grandfather, I'm doing well now. What happened was unfortunate, but it didn't hurt me as much as you think it did. So, please do not worry too much or your old illness will strike again." Ran Xueyi sighed deeply.

The reason why she hadn't gone back to her grandparents when she found out the horrible truth was only because she couldn't make them worry even more than they already were towards her.

They were old and had a prevailing illness that worried her so much. If they had known what her parents and Yang Baihua did to her, Ran Xueyi would not know what to do if something bad were to happen to them because of her.

"How can I not worry? My precious granddaughter was forced to leave her home because of those ungrateful people! Tell me, Xueyi. Do you want grandfather to take the mansion from them?" Ran Zhu asked her.

If other people heard him ask them this question, they would surely think Old Master Ran was merely joking with them.

However, Ran Xueyi knew that her grandfather wouldn't joke about these things. Rather, she knew that her grandfather never jokes around. What he says, he'll do them.

Hence, she knew that her grandfather was really thinking of driving her parents and younger sister out of the family mansion.

But as much as she liked the idea of driving them out of her grandparent's mansion, she was very reluctant to use her grandfather's help for such matters.

Her grandfather should leave it to her and just rest well with Grandma Ran.

"Grandfather, there's no need for that. I left the mansion on my own and besides, I'm living well now." A smile appeared on her lips as the thought of her husband waiting for her back home appeared in her mind.

As though he noticed her mood, Ran Zhu asked, "Did something good happen? Why do I feel like you're living much better after leaving home..."

Ran Xueyi bit her lips, forcing herself to smile, but her lips wouldn't listen to her.

"Alright, grandfather..." she interrupted him. "I'm kind of busy today so I'll hang up first."

Ran Zhu didn't seem to believe her and hurriedly scolded her, "Hmph! We just talked for a few minutes and you're already rushing to hang up. How cold of you, Xueyi." After a pause, he added,

"Go. Do what you have to do. But don't forget to come home. Your grandmother misses you and wants to see your face."

Ran Xueyi hummed her agreement and hung up the call.

Chapter 50 First Audition

Ran Xueyi both felt happy and sad after speaking to her grandfather. She was filled with happiness that even if everyone in this world were to go against her, her grandparents will still be there for her. Yet, she still couldn't shake off the feeling of sadness deep inside of her.

Her grandparents were no longer young and they both already retired due to their illness. Her grandfather was suffering from stage-two cancer. Although the special doctor they hired for her grandfather told them that the cancerous cell was not malignant and could be treated and not at all deadly, Ran Xueyi still wasn't comforted.

As for her grandmother, Ran Xueyi knew that the old lady would be heartbroken if she found out the truth that she was schemed at by everyone else. Aside from that, her grandmother also suffered from body aches and couldn't go out that much because of it. Thus, the old lady had to stay inside their mansion back in the Xi'an province.

Looking at the time, Ran Xueyi sighed. There were more than thirty minutes before the audition started for the movie <<Great Empress' Love>>.

Since it was rush hour, the traffic was really bad. If she wants to take a role in that movie, she must arrive there five minutes before the actual audition starts, or at least, before the judges and directors arrive.

While waiting for the car in front to go forward, Ran Xueyi calmly reviewed the movie she was about to audition for a role.

The movie title <<'The Great Empress' Love>> was adapted from a novel of the same title. It was the story of a young princess who fell in love with a man who was lower of her station. Unfortunately, it wasn't only because of the man's status that made her feel devastated. It was because the man she fell in love with was not anyone else, but her imperial father's head eunuch.

In the novel, the head eunuch was not much older than the princess. He was actually the youngest head eunuch in history and was even respected by the emperor because of his skillful abilities in handling the things the emperor orders.

The story will start when the young princess falls for the eunuch at first sight. Since then, she started to vie for his love, trying to get his attention through frequently visiting her father, the emperor. However, her love would soon be squashed when her own sister wanted to snatch away her first love. The young princess was heartbroken when the eunuch showed his interest in her sister. Out of her spite, she agreed to one of the many proposal her mother empress had forced her to. Thus, her fate should be sealed with her betrothed.

However, things didn't end there because the moment the young princess got married, her family fell through and enemy started to strike. The royal family died and even her sister who was supposed to be living a happy life with the head eunuch didn't have a good ending.

At the end, the princess found that the person who drove her family to hell and made them live a life filled with suffering was none other than the eunuch, who was actually a prince from another kingdom.

Ran Xueyi heard the beep from the car behind her own, and only until then did she notice that the car ahead had already distanced itself a few meters away now. Feeling a bit apologetic for being distracted, Ran Xueyi started her engine.

When she arrived at Starlight TV studio, where the audition would be held, she saw several artists were already waiting outside of the audition room. Most of them were young actors whom she didn't recognize and only saw their faces briefly on television. But she still saw that some of the artists sitting on the side were veterans and artists whom she met when she was still at her peak.

Upon her arrival, the people in the waiting room paused their actions out of curiosity when they heard the door opening. They first thought that it was someone from the production staff who came in and wanted to greet them to earn some points.

But when they turned their head towards the door, they were momentarily blinded. It was probably because the lights outside the waiting room were too bright because they were seeing some kind of halo surrounding the beautiful lady standing at the door.

Feeling everyone's gaze falling on her body, Ran Xueyi felt a bit embarrassed. Being late was never a good thing in the entertainment industry during an audition. It wasn't only because it would mark you look bad in front of the directors and investors and lose a desired role, it was also because once you entered the room, everyone's eyes would instantly fall on you and people would immediately start to judge and evaluate your value as an opponent.

However, instead of feeling scared, Ran Xueyi was elated, excited even.

It was her first time in years to step on the battlefield.

That's right. The audition room was the stage where everyone would fight against others to get the most prized role with their weapon; acting.

Ran Xueyi smiled and greeted some of the people who were nearer to her. She flashed a bright smile at those who were far and nodded her head at them.

Oddly enough, those who thought they saw a formidable opponent when they saw her also nodded their heads and smiled back at her. Their initial thought of antagonizing the newcomer lessened.

As the waiting room was momentarily shaken at Ran Xueyi's arrival before it calmed down, the people behind the closed door of the audition room was definitely not relaxed.

"What?! Are you sure about that?" Director Chi Cheng exclaimed and looked at his assistant, who had just come into the audition room, in disbelief.

The assistant director nodded his head and replied, "I am very sure. Who do you think I am? I was one of her number one fan. How could I possibly not recognize the goddess I was chasing after?"

Director Chi still couldn't believe it. "Could it be that Ran Xueyi is really back and wants to start anew? And she'd here to audition in my movie?"

The assistant director was stunned and gasped. "That's right! She's probably here too audition for the female lead role!"

If Ran Xueyi were to play the female lead role, how could things go wrong? With a veteran actress who received the award that everyone wanted, nothing could possibly go wrong, right?

Just after the assistant director said this, Director Chi shook his head. He said, "I don't think so since the female lead role is already taken by someone else."

The assistant director was shocked. He was just away for several minutes and the role was already taken? He quickly asked, "W-who got the female lead role?"

Director Chi replied, "Ran Yue."